



**CITY OF
TUCSON**



NEWS RELEASE

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TDD: 837-7016

TFD BATTLES BUILDING FIRE AND ELEMENTS 3 ALARMS CALLED DUE TO CONDITIONS AND BUILDING SIZE

Dispatch Time – 12:25 P.M.
On-Scene Time – 12:28 P.M.

A fire broke out just after noon in the 2500 block of East 6th Street, pushing firefighters to extreme limits due to high heat and size of the building. An employee of the Rincon Market called 9-1-1 and stated there was smoke in the building and they thought something on the roof was on fire. The business had already started evacuating patrons and employees. TFD arrived three minutes later and the personnel from the crew quickly investigated the conditions inside. They confirmed smoke was building in the back, or north, part of the building. The ladder crew on scene immediately controlled utilities to the entire strip center and put up the aerial to allow the firefighters access to the roof. Interior crews started pulling down the ceiling to locate the fire. The crews were able to put water on the fire quickly but the roof construction made it difficult to extinguish completely. The ladder crew cut a large hole over the fire and a second hole along the wall to allow better access for the crews to get water on the fire. A second crew went to the roof and cut another hole to open things up even further. Crews from the interior and roof were able to extinguish the fire using a coordinated attack after close to an hour of battling the blaze. The entire strip center consisting of four businesses was evacuated during the course of firefighting operations. The high heat made it imperative for firefighters to get out of their equipment and re-hydrate as quickly as possible. Every firefighter had to report to rehab to cool off and have their vital signs taken. Two alarms were dispatched to the scene with a third arriving on scene after the fire was extinguished specifically to relieve the exhausted crews. 20 units and forty-eight firefighters were dispatched to the scene to bring the fire under control. There were no injuries to firefighters. Building Safety and the Health Department were both responding to the scene. Fire investigators had not been cleared to go into the building to begin their investigation due to the high readings of toxic smoke still in the building.

Origin – Under investigation
Cause – Under investigation
Damages Estimate – Yet to be determined



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